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REMARKS**Status of Claims**

Claims 1-21 and 37 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-21 and 37 stand rejected. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Rejection of Claims 2-3 and 37 under 35 USC §112

Claims 2-3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Applicants have amended claim 2 to incorporate the language of claim 1, specifically, the "compressible, flexible, polymer fiber blanket". Applicants submit that there is now proper antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2-3 now comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, and respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn.

The Office states that claim 37 claims a density from 32 – 800 kg/m³. Applicants respectfully submit that this range is correct. See paragraph 2 on page 7 of the specification.

Applicants respectfully request that the 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, rejection of claim 37 be withdrawn.

Rejection of Claims 1-21 under 35 USC §103(a)

Claims 1-21 and 37 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 2004/0023586A1 in view of JP 58145435.

Applicants respectfully submit that the Tilton et al. publication qualifies as prior art only under section 102(e). The present invention was filed on December 30, 2003 and U.S. 2004/0023586A1 was published on February 5, 2004. U.S. 2004/0023586A1 and the present invention are commonly assigned to Owens Corning

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Fiberglas Technology, Inc. Applicants respectfully submit that the present application and U.S. 2004/0023596A1 were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same entity, Owens Corning Fiberglas Technology, Inc.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the 103 rejection of claims 1-21 and 37 be withdrawn.

Conclusion

In view of the above, it is submitted that the claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejections is requested. Allowance of claims 1-21 and 37 at an early date is solicited.

The Office is invited to telephone the Applicants' undersigned agent at (740) 321-7213 if any unresolved matters remain.

If any questions should arise with respect to the above Remarks, or if the Office has any comments or suggestions to place the claims in better condition for allowance, it is requested that the Office contact Applicants' agent at the number listed below.

Applicant authorizes any fees required pertaining to this response be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0568.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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